(a) whether it is a fact that there are 925 projects of Rs. 20 crores or more being financed by the Central Government;

(b) if not, the exact number thereof and the number of the projects that are running behind their schedule; and

(c) the likely cost escalation for these projects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As on 30th June, 2009 951 central sector projects costing Rs. 20 crores or more were on the monitor of this Ministry. Of these, 466 projects are running behind schedule with respect to the latest approved schedule.

(c) The likely cost escalation for these projects is Rs. 37693.70 crore *i.e.* 11.9% of the latest approved cost of Rs. 314736.75 crore.

Delay in central projects

†1186. SHRI SHIVANAND TIWARI:
SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD:

Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in March 2004, 37.2 per cent of the projects financed by the Central Government were running behind the schedule and now 48 per cent projects are running behind the schedule;

(b) if not, the facts in this regard; and

(c) the amount spent on these projects by the end of March, 2009?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL): (a) and (b) As in March, 2004 out of 568 central sector projects, 207 projects were running behind schedule *i.e.* 36.44%. As in June, 2009 out of 951 projects, 466 projects were running behind schedule with respect to the latest approved schedule, which comes to 49%.

(c) As in June, 2009 an amount of Rs. 243431 crore was incurred which is 40% of the anticipated completion cost.

Benefit of MPLADS fund to all communities

1187. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the Minister of STATISTICS AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) while setting apart certain percentage out of MPLADS funds for SC/ST habitations exclusively is welcome, whether it is practical to implement this guideline in all places particularly when there are certain constituencies which do not have the requisite habitations at all; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.